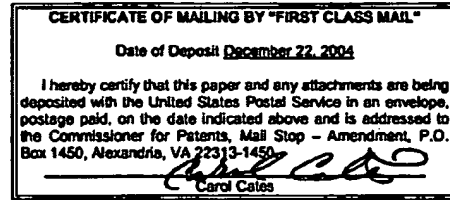




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/982,509 Confirmation No. 7211
Applicant : Thompson, David, et al
Filed : October 17, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2683
Examiner : Torres, Marcos L.
Docket No. : BRDC:036 (BYTE:036)
Customer No. : 29395



Mail Stop – Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement of September 23, 2004:

ELECTION

Applicant hereby elects Group I, Claims 1-12, for further prosecution in the present

04/08/2005 FRIDICK 00000002 501350 09982509
01 FC:2253 application. This election is made without traverse, and in view of the Examiner's statements in
the Restriction Requirement that the inventions of the Groups are related as combination and
subcombination and are distinct because (1) the combination as claimed does not require the